

Introduced by Senator Torlakson
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Wolk)
(Coauthors: Senators Chesbro, Machado, and Ortiz)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Jones)

September 1, 2005

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 62—Relative to the California Delta Trail.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 62, as introduced, Torlakson. California Delta Trail.

This measure would express the Legislature's support for the creation of a California Delta Trail which would link the San Francisco Bay Trail system to present and future trailways in the Counties of Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Solano, Sacramento, and Yolo.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The great California Delta region is a wondrous
2 state and national treasure, with its natural resources and fertile
3 soils for agriculture, its access to recreation and science research,
4 and its rich history and beauty; and
5 WHEREAS, The California Delta provides two-thirds of the
6 state's drinking and irrigation water, which flows through the
7 delta's over 1,000 miles of waterways, levees, and shoreline; and
8 WHEREAS, The California Delta is of great ecological
9 significance, with its two most prominent waterways; the
10 Sacramento and the San Joaquin Rivers, which carry fresh water
11 from the Sierra Nevada Range and the Central Valley to the San
12 Francisco Bay; and

1 WHEREAS, The California Delta is a key part of the Pacific
2 Flyway, and its rich ecosystem serves as home to thousands of
3 unique birds, fish, animals, and plants, and is enjoyed by outdoor
4 enthusiasts, water-sport fans, hunters, fishermen and naturalists;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The California Delta is a complicated and fragile
7 system that needs the appreciation and protection of future
8 generations of Californians; and

9 WHEREAS, The California Delta is characterized by its
10 numerous scenic waterways, levee-top roadways, historic towns,
11 idyllic marinas, and eucalyptus tree windrows; and

12 WHEREAS, There are 22 public recreation areas in the delta
13 region, with fishing, park day-use facilities, campgrounds, trails
14 and boating access, which support numerous recreational
15 activities including boating, water skiing, jet skiing, windsurfing,
16 sailing, fishing, relaxing, hiking and jogging, swimming,
17 picnicking, and cycling; and

18 WHEREAS, California is challenged by a growing obesity
19 crisis and state and local leaders must address the need for more
20 opportunities for exercise, movement, and recreation in public
21 settings; and

22 WHEREAS, Delta Protection Commission surveys have found
23 that there are unmet recreational needs in the delta region,
24 including the need for more hiking and bicycling trails, facilities
25 for wildlife observation and education, water sports access areas,
26 bank fishing areas, parking facilities and trash pick-up
27 receptacles, and improved historic and cultural sites providing
28 interpretive information; and

29 WHEREAS, Bicycle and pedestrian trails along the delta
30 would provide an important link between the people of California
31 and one of our most precious natural resources; and

32 WHEREAS, A bicycle and pedestrian trail connecting the
33 delta region with adjacent areas would provide a great link
34 between our fascinating delta communities and foster a
35 connection between our rich histories and our present challenges;
36 now, therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
38 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature supports the creation of
39 the California Delta Trail, that would link the San Francisco Bay
40 Trail system to present and future railways in the Counties of

1 Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Solano, Sacramento, and Yolo; and
2 be it further

3 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourages the Delta Protection
4 Commission and each of the delta's bordering counties, cities,
5 and special districts, in coordination with state and federal
6 agencies, to collaborate in a strategic plan for designing and
7 creating a California Delta Trail; and be it further

8 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
9 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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